

# AFFIDAVIT OF PARENTAGE (FRONT)



## STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH Office of the State Registrar

### AFFIDAVIT OF PARENTAGE (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

State File Number \_\_\_\_\_

We affirm under penalty of perjury that we are the natural parents of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)  
who was born in \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Hospital Name, City, County, State) (Date of birth)

and that we sign this affidavit to establish the paternity for this child. We hereby consent that the name of the natural father may be included on the certificate of birth for the child.

We wish the child's name to be recorded as:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

In signing this form, we understand that:

- a) This is a legal public document.
- b) Completion of the acknowledgement is voluntary.
- c) The mother has custody of the child unless otherwise determined by the court or agreed by the parties in writing.
- d) Either parent may assert a claim in court for parenting time or custody.
- e) Both parents have a right to notice and a hearing regarding the adoption of the child.
- f) Both parents have the responsibility to support the child and to comply with a court or administrative order for the child's support.
- g) By signing this acknowledgement, we waive the following:
  - i) The right to blood or genetic test to determine if the man is the biological father of the child.
  - ii) Any right to a court appointed attorney, including the prosecuting attorney, to represent either party in a court action to determine if the man is the biological father of the child.
  - iii) The right to a trial to determine if the man is the biological father of the child.

Further, the mother states that she was not married when this child was born or conceived; or that this child, though born or conceived during a marriage, is not an issue of that marriage as determined by a court of law.

#### FATHER

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Father's Name - Printed)

Current Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street Name

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

State or Country of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

To the best of my knowledge, the above information is true

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Father)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
19\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Notary Public's Signature)

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

#### MOTHER

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mother's Name - Printed)

Current Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Number and Street Name

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

State or Country of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

To the best of my knowledge, the above information is true

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Mother)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
19\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Notary Public's Signature)

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFIDAVIT OF  
PARENTAGE  
(BACK)**

Michigan Department of Community Health  
Office of the State Registrar

**Affidavit of Parentage  
Instructions**

This form can be used to establish the parentage of a child and may be used to have information on the father of a child added to the certificate of birth for the child. This affidavit may be completed at the time of the child's birth or at any other time after the birth.

It is intended for use by couples who were not married at the time the child was conceived nor at the time of birth. In instances where the mother was married to someone other than the father when the child was conceived or delivered, a court ruling of her husband's nonpaternity is important in order to first establish that the child is not the husband's child.

**Completion of this affidavit is voluntary.** It indicates the parents wish to acknowledge parentage of a child. The form may be used by parents who were not married when the child was born nor when the child was conceived to legally establish their parentage of a child.

When properly completed, this form must be presented for filing with the Michigan Department of Community Health, Office of the State Registrar. The form may be mailed to:

Central Paternity Registry  
Office of the State Registrar  
Michigan Department of Community Health  
P.O. Box 30195  
3423 North M.L. King Blvd  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Proper completion of the form is very important. Forms that are not properly completed will not be accepted for filing. Among other things, the form must be legible, must be typed or printed in ink, must be signed by both parents, and must be properly notarized. At a minimum, the following items must be provided: the full names of the child, the mother and the father, the date and place of the child's birth, the address of each parent and the birth places of each parent.

There is no fee for filing the affidavit with the central paternity registry. Once filed, the affidavit becomes a matter of public record. Certified copies of the affidavit are available from the central registry for \$13.00 (additional copies are \$4.00 each) and can be requested at the time of filing.

**Adding a Father to the Birth Certificate**

**Birth certificates are not automatically changed when an affidavit is filed**, except when completed in the hospital at the time of birth and before the birth has been registered. Changes to registered birth records can be requested based upon a properly completed affidavit, but the birth record correction must be requested on a separate Application to Correct a Certificate of Birth. A birth certificate can be changed to reflect the father listed on this affidavit if no other man is recorded on the birth certificate as the child's father. Should a conflict exist, a court determination of paternity may become necessary.

There is a fee for each birth record change, as is noted on the correction application. Applications to correct a birth certificate are available from the office of the county clerk and from the Office of the State Registrar at the address listed above.

If this affidavit is completed at the time of birth and provided to hospital staff before the birth certificate is prepared and filed, the birth certificate will be completed to include the father with no need for a separate application or fee. When completed at the time of birth and used as the basis for recording the father on the original certificate of birth, hospital staff must forward the original affidavit along with the original birth certificate to the local registrar. The local registrar will forward the affidavit to the Central Paternity Registry for final filing.

By authority of Act 305 of 1996

B-229 Revised (1/97)

**Completion of this Form is Voluntary**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

The Affidavit of Parentage form (MDCH form B-229, revised 1/97) is designed to permit the voluntary establishment of paternity for a child. When the form is properly completed and filed with the Office of the State Registrar the child's parentage is established and a permanent record of the acknowledgment created. There is no fee for filing the form, however, there is a charge for certified copies of the filed form. An acknowledgment of paternity is necessary if the father is to be listed on the certificate of birth for the child born to an unmarried couple.

Completing the form is generally quite simple. These instructions are intended to clarify how the items on the form are to be completed and any special considerations of importance in completing the form. It is most important that the form be fully completed and be legibly printed or typed. Black ink is recommended and is required by some courts.

Forward completed affidavits to:

Central Paternity Registry  
Office of the State Registrar  
Michigan Department of Community Health  
P.O. Box 30195  
3423 North Martin Luther King  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

**REVISED PROCEDURES**

The procedures for filing these affidavits changed on June 1, 1997 when Act 305 of 1996 took effect. The Acknowledgment of Parentage Act shifts the filing of the affidavit from the Probate Court to the Office of the State Registrar within the Michigan Department of Community Health. All affidavits filed on and after June 1, 1997 must be sent to the Office of the State Registrar. There are some important points relative to this change that need to be explained.

The historical filings of paternity acknowledgments within the Probate Court will remain within the court. In attempting to obtain a certified copy of a filed affidavit, it is the date of filing that will determine the location of the acknowledgment and not the date of a child's birth.

The filing of an Affidavit of Parentage with the Office of the State Registrar after the birth of the child does not cause the birth certificate of the child to be changed. Application to change a birth certificate is a separate procedure that requires a separate application form and a fee. This procedure is discussed on the reverse of the Affidavit of Parentage form.

The statute requires that the person notarizing the form provide the mother and father with a copy of the completed affidavit.

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**STATEMENTS TO BE AFFIRMED**

The upper portion of the form contains the statements to which the parents state are true. It is important to under score that each parent is attesting:

- that they are the child's parents,
- that they wish to acknowledge that child's paternity,
- that they wish to have the father listed on the certificate of birth for the child,
- that they consent to the filing of the form in the Office of the State Registrar,
- that the mother was unwed at the conception and birth of the child, or if married, a court has determined her husband to not be the father,
- that they are stipulating the child's name as they wish it listed on the certificate of birth for the child.

The form lists seven points relative to the acknowledgment being signed that the parents must indicate they understand. These are:

- that the affidavit is a legal public record,
- that completion of the form is voluntary,
- that the mother has custody of the child unless otherwise determined by a court or agreed by the parties in writing,
- that either parent may assert a claim for parenting time or custody,
- that both parents have a right to notice and a hearing regarding the adoption of the child,
- that both parents have the responsibility to support the child and to comply with administrative and court orders for child support,
- that the right to blood testing, the right to an attorney and to a trial to determine the biological father of the child are waived by signing the acknowledgment.

**PROPER COMPLETION OF THE FORM**

It is important to complete the form as fully as possible and to insure the accuracy of the information recorded. Type or print legibly. Black ink is preferred. For items that are unknown, enter "unknown" rather than leave the item blank.

The form requires reporting information about the child within a section that also affirms that the act of signing the form is attesting to the parentage of the identified child. To complete affirmation section, enter:

Name of Child at Birth

It is important to record the name given the child when first born. This will clearly indicate the relation between the child as named when the birth was first recorded and as named following acknowledging parentage. When the form is completed in the hospital and at the time of birth these names are generally the same.

Enter the full first, middle and last names of the child. If the child is a newborn that is not yet named, enter the last name preceded by baby boy or baby girl.

Place of Birth

The place of birth refers to hospital name, city, county and state. Enter as much information as known. This item must be completed for the affidavit to be acceptable for filing.

Date of Birth

Enter the month, day and the year that the child was born. This item must be completed accurately. It is best to spell the month of birth.

This item must be completed for the affidavit to be acceptable for filing.

Child's Name on the Birth Certificate

List the full name of the child exactly as it is wished to appear on the child's birth certificate. Indicate the first name, middle name and the last name. If the child will have a surname suffix, include this with the last name.

This is important to documenting the parents' wishes on the child's name within the court and on the birth certificate.

**Note:** This form may be completed and filed but not used to change the certificate of birth for the child. Once the child's birth is registered with the state, completing and filing this form will not cause the birth record to be changed. Application to change the birth certificate (Application to Name a Father on a Certificate of Birth) must be made as a separate application to the Department of Community Health. See the reverse side of the affidavit for more information. This application process is explained within the instructions on the opposite side of the affidavit.

### Information on the Parents

This section records key information on each parent. Though the form can be signed and notarized separately by the mother and the father, it is very important to complete the information on each parent before either signs the form.

#### Name

List the full legal names of each parent as of the date the affidavit is completed. It is important to list the first, middle and last name along with any surname suffix.

This information identifies the parents and is also used for listing the father on the birth certificate.

The names of each parent must be completed for the affidavit to be acceptable for filing.

#### Current Address

List the street and number, city, state and zip code address for each parent.

If neither parent is a Michigan resident, enter the county equivalent for their place of residence should they not have counties. If there is no county equivalent, leave blank.

The information in this section identifies the parents specifically.

#### Date of Birth

Enter the date of birth for each parent. Provide the month, day and year. It is best to spell the month of birth.

The information further identifies the couple and, in the case of the father, will be used in preparing the certificate of birth for the child, as appropriate.

#### Place of Birth

Enter the state of birth for each parent. If either parent was not born within the US, enter their country of birth.

These items must be completed for the affidavit to be acceptable for filing.

#### Social Security Number

The Social Security Number of each parent is an identifier field.

Should a parent not have a number enter "none."

For foreign citizens, do not enter an equivalent number from outside the USA.

#### Signature of Father and Mother

The signature must be properly entered, must be original and must be in ink. Black ink is recommended. The original signature of each parent must be completed for the affidavit to be acceptable for filing.

Each parent may sign separately, but each signature must then be independently notarized.

#### **NOTARIZATION SECTION**

This section is critical for the form to be legal. The purpose of notarization and witnessing is to comply with the requirements of law relative to establishing paternity. Those requirements are clearly intended in to insure the proper identify of each parent and the authenticity of each signature. Errors in notarization will generally necessitate that the Office of the State Registrar will refuse to file the form. In such cases, a new affidavit would need to be prepared for filing.

Note that under the Acknowledgment of Parentage Act, the mother and father shall be provided with a copy of the completed acknowledgment at the time of signing. It is important that the person notarizing the form provides these to the couple.

#### Date Signed

Enter the date as the day, followed by the month and then the year. Entering words for the date rather an numbers is recommended, as in the 20th day of January 1997.

#### Notary Signature

A duly authorized and appointed notary public must sign the form. The signature will indicate that they personally witnessed the parent sign the form and that the parent has been identified as the individual listed on the form.

A separate signature is required for each parent.

#### Commission Expiration

Enter the date that the current commission of the notary expires, as supplied by the Secretary of State's Office. It is, again, best to spell out the month.